

The Times-Dispatch.

Published Daily and Weekly

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1909.

The Oyster Industry.

Professor Brooks, of Maryland, takes a most optimistic view of the probabilities of the oyster industry in the Chesapeake Bay. He says that the bay may be made to produce each year as many oysters as have been produced in all the past years, which he estimates at four hundred billion bushels.

Speaking of the efforts that have been made within recent years to increase the supply of oysters by artificial means he dwells on many interesting facts, which it would be well for Virginia to consider. The oyster is enormously prolific, a single one giving birth in a season to many millions young. But millions of oysters, says Professor Brooks, are born for each one that grows to maturity. Fifty years ago, it was discovered that it was possible to save many of these oysters by artificial means, and experiments have been carried on in France, as well as in Connecticut, and other parts of the United States, which proves that this can be done successfully and economically on a very large scale.

Let us now recite some additional facts submitted by Professor Brooks. Soon after the oyster is born it fastens itself to some solid body. It is so small at first that it falls on a muddy or slimy bottom. It is smothered and killed at once; its only chance of life being the discovery of some perfectly clean, hard body upon which to fasten. In the absence of such body the young oyster perishes. The method of propagating the oyster, therefore, is to place within reach the hard bodies to which it may cling.

No spat collector seems to be better adapted for use in our waters than oyster shells, but in order to serve this purpose, the shells must be perfectly clean. In regions where there is no danger from frost or where the young growth is to be planted in deeper water before winter the shells may be deposited at or even above low-water mark, and in the sounds of North Carolina oysters thrive even at high-tide mark. The shells should be deposited in the early summer—in June, July and August—in localities where there is enough current to sweep the swimming young past them. A hard bottom is to be preferred, but this method may be employed with great advantage upon any soft bottoms which are near the surface. In this case the shells should not be uniformly distributed, but placed in piles or ridges. If these ridges are properly arranged with reference to the direction of the current they will produce secondary currents and will thus cause the soft mud to flow off between them. In this way any bottom which is bare or nearly bare at low tide and which is exposed to the winds and waves may in time be swept nearly clean of mud. Each time the tide comes in the mud is stirred up and suspended in the water, and as the tide ebbes this suspended matter is swept into the channels between the obstructions and is carried away. Shells are very effective as spat collectors. Shell wharves built out into deep water, so as to catch and turn the passing current, are often found at all stages of growth and in good condition for planting.

The month of June is usually the best time for shelling the bottom, and the quantity of shells varies according to circumstances, but in most cases, one thousand bushels to the acre are not too many. The serious opposition to the use of shells is that the method is wasteful, for fifty or one hundred oysters are often attached to one shell, and as the oysters grow, some of them are necessarily crowded out and destroyed. The use of tiles, therefore, has been introduced in France to avoid this loss.

As tiles can be employed without difficulty in deep water they are well adapted for use in our bay. Those which are used in France are much like a common drain pipe saved in two longitudinally. They cannot be obtained in our markets at present, although they could be made very cheaply if there were any demand for them. Each tile is about 1-1/2 or 2 feet long, 6 or 8 inches wide, concave on one side and convex on the other. The shape of the tile is important, as nearly all the oysters fasten themselves upon the concave surface. They adhere so firmly that it is difficult to detach them without injury, and to avoid this the French oyster breeders coat the tiles with a thin whitewash, which can be scraped off with the young oysters when these are large enough to be distributed upon the planting grounds.

In our waters, however, clean oyster shells are the best substance to use for the purpose, and there is hardly a spot in the bay which may not be converted into an oyster bed, by this simple method of cultivation. There is no body of water in the world which offers advantages for the cultivation of this industry equal to those afforded by the Chesapeake Bay, for there is no other suitable place which has such a great area of bottom. The statement is then repeated that the number of oysters, which the bay might be made to furnish annually, is greater than the total number which have been taken from our waters in the past. The thing needed to make this great source of wealth available is permission to engage in oyster culture.

"When the citizens of Maryland demand the right to enter in this industry and to reclaim their property," says Professor Brooks in conclusion, "a new era of prosperity will be introduced and the oyster area will be developed with great rapidity."

This is a difficult question to handle either in Maryland or Virginia, because politics enters largely into the solution of the problem. But it is a fact that Chesapeake Bay offers wondrous advantages to the people of Virginia and these advantages should not be longer neglected. It is a scientific question, a practical question, a business question, which should be determined upon scientific, practical and business principles, and not upon the principle of politics.

The Cigarette.

A number of interesting letters have been published in our afternoon contemporary as to who was the first manufacturer of cigarettes in this city. As yet, the question has not been decided; it is an open one still. It is admitted, however, that Allen & Ginter were the first persons to establish a factory here to produce cigarettes. Kimey, however, was already in the field in New York. Long before that time, of course, the cigarette was in use in many parts of the world, especially among the Spanish and French.

The custom of cigarette smoking had made some advance here before the war, but was nothing like as general in Richmond as it was in New Orleans. Forty or fifty years ago, at least, some of the boys of this city were in habit of making and smoking cigarettes, but having no "cigarette paper," they used paper of other grades, rolled it and then filled it with smoking tobacco. Such cigarettes the boys made for their own use, though it now appears that they placed some for sale in the stores. Later on, Allen & Ginter opened their factory.

The Mr. Allen who was associated with Mr. Ginter was Mr. John F. Allen, who was or had been a cigar manufacturer, and who for a long time lived on the south side of Cary Street, near Fifth, in a house that stands far back in the yard. Directly opposite Major Ginter bought an old house and remodeled it at great expense, and made it one of the most luxuriously furnished homes in the city. This is the house now occupied by Captain W. Gordon McCabe.

The place of business of Allen & Ginter was for a long time on Franklin Street, one square below the Ballard House. There they laid the foundation of their fortune, and there in the beginning they turned out cigars, cigarettes and smoking tobacco.

Major Ginter foresaw the great future of the cigarette trade and was willing to make large expenditures to develop it, but Mr. Allen was more conservative. He, therefore, sold out his interest in the firm to Major Ginter and retired with a fortune suited to his simple habits. The rest of his useful and honorable life he spent in ease and in the enjoyment of painting and music.

We all know Major Ginter's life history; how creditable it was to him and how valuable it was to Richmond, but his old partner was also a worthy character, deserving too, to be gratefully remembered. Mr. Allen used his income at the bidding of his kind heart, and in his will generously remembered public charities, as well as those dear ones who were dependent upon him.

The cigarette business grew and multiplied, not only here, but in North Carolina, and North and West. Competition was rife; the road was covered with their drummers, and fortunes were expended annually in advertising. Then talk began to be heard about a consolidation, and the result was that the American Tobacco Company was formed. Major Ginter opposed the proposition for a good while, but finally yielded, and an application for a charter for the combination was made to the Virginia Legislature.

Our recollection is that it was granted, but upon a hue and cry being raised, steps were taken by the Legislature to repeal it, pending which the company went to New Jersey, and were there incorporated. And there they yearly contribute to the public treasury a neat little sum of money in the shape of a corporation tax.

One's Prescription.

The question as to whom a prescription belongs—whether to the druggist who has filled it, or to the purchaser, is up once more before a New York court.

This is a question which the able and loquacious leisure class that frequent drug stores have discussed for ages past.

In Richmond, the custom is, we believe, for the druggist to retain the prescription, but to give the person offering it to be filled a copy, if requested.

The argument advanced in support of this course is that the druggist may need the original as a measure of self-protection. There would appear to be much reason in this view, because some medical practitioners have been known to make dreadful mistakes in their prescriptions. Instances where they have done so can be readily recalled by many old druggists; sometimes the error was discovered by the druggist; sometimes not. But suppose the medicine kills the patient, or is alleged to be the cause of death. See at what disadvantage the druggist would be if he were not able to show what formula had been given him to work by. So the practice obtains in Richmond, and everywhere else, that

the druggist keeps the prescription on file in his store and furnishes the purchaser with a copy of it when requested. Whether it is in strict conformity with law or not we do not know, but it appears to be so reasonable that it is generally acquiesced in.

The Suffrage.

A special from Baltimore says that in the inner circles of the Maryland Democracy plans are brewing to carry out the anti-election pledge of negro disfranchisement. It is further said that the Virginia Constitution seems to furnish the material most approved by the Democrats for use in framing such suffrage amendments desired by them for the State. This, says the correspondent, is partly because Virginia was the last of the Southern States to act, and her law-makers had the experience of their sister States to guide them, and also because conditions in Virginia more closely approach those in Maryland.

We believe that the Democrats of Maryland will make no mistake to adopt the Virginia plan, for it has operated admirably here. Under it, the objectionable negroes have been excluded from the suffrage, and all negroes who have any business to vote are admitted. We believe that the law has been administered with entire fairness to the negro. Under the temporary understanding clause it was largely in the power of the registrars to admit whom they would, and exclude whom they would, with this proviso that they must admit every negro who paid as much as one dollar a year in taxes to the State. In this way the thrifty negroes were registered, while those who were ignorant and shiftless were excluded.

The Virginia electorate has been thoroughly purged, and we have rid ourselves of a nuisance, a menace and a source of corruption and evil. It was the best that could be done under the circumstances, and the task was well done.

Hereafter there will be a straightforward educational test, and there will be no discrimination against the negro.

MUNYON'S PAW-PAW

Just the Tonic That People of the South Need, Says

MRS. A. ALLEN

A Highly Respected Resident of Richmond.

PAW-PAW BEST TONIC ON EARTH, SAYS MRS. ALLEN.

I consider Munyon's Paw-Paw the best tonic on earth, and just what we, the people of the South, require to regulate our diet. I was a victim to nervous depression, weakness of stomach and a general feeling of gloominess for which I tried many remedies without the least benefit. One week ago I purchased a bottle of Paw-Paw. I expected to find a bitter and disagreeable mixture, as I had been taking, but, on the contrary, I found it most pleasant and agreeable to the taste. I began using it with instant relief. Within two days my nerves were relieved, my dependency gone, my exceedingly weak stomach became strong. I could eat, digest my food and sleep soundly, and I am now without the least symptom of my recent illness. I repeat that Paw-Paw is the best tonic on earth.

Sold by all druggists. Large bottle, \$1. Paw-Paw Laxative Pills, 50c a bottle.

MRS. A. ALLEN, 527 N. Second St., Richmond, Va. If you have dyspepsia, try it. If you are nervous, try it. If you are despondent, try it. If you are weak and run down, try it. Cast away all tonics, all medicines and all stimulants and let Munyon's Paw-Paw make you well. It will lift you into the high altitudes of hope and hold you there. It will give exhilaration without intoxication.

Sold by all druggists. Large bottle, \$1. Paw-Paw Laxative Pills, 50c a bottle.

Wall Brigade and the Confederate Camp of Danville, and Lee Camp, of Richmond, concur in the view that the 10th of January—Lee's birthday—should hereafter be celebrated as Lee-Jackson Day.

That that will be the practice hereafter we have no doubt. There is all the more propriety in this arrangement since the two men had the highest admiration for one another, Jackson having said of Lee that he was the only man he was willing to follow blindly, and Lee having spoken of the loss of Jackson as of the loss of his right arm.

The St. Louis Building.

The House yesterday ordered its endorsement of the bill appropriating \$10,000 for the State building at the St. Louis Exposition, and there is no doubt the bill will pass that body.

It should also pass the Senate and receive the signature of the Governor. Virginia must have a creditable building at this great exposition, and the State must come up to the aid of individuals who have subscribed in a spirit of patriotism.

In the cities north of us, as well as in Richmond, the snatch thief finds opportunity to fill his pockets.

The Baltimore Herald says: "as long as the women continue to carry bags containing money and jewelry, swinging them as they walk, so long will the temptation to rob be strong." Correct! But that presupposes that the women have pockets in their dresses, which they might use, when they haven't. It isn't the fashion, it seems.

Viewed from a masculine standpoint, there is no good and sufficient reason why women should not provide themselves with pockets large enough, at least, to hold the money they possess. They must do so, or else take the risk of being robbed. No city has a police force large enough to suppress, altogether, the operations of snatch thieves when so many streets are crowded, as now, with shoppers.

Delaware is the only State in the Union which uses the whipping post and the pillory as punishments for crimes generally. And now the chief warden of the New Castle workhouse says whipping is a failure as a deterrent of crime. The figures that he produces show that men once flogged do not hesitate to repeat the crime and take a second whipping for it. One man has been whipped five different times—his crime on each occasion being the same.

Maryland has a law "permitting" the use of the lash on a wife beater, but we learn from the Baltimore American that that method of punishment is seldom used; the poor, ill-used, distressed wife can ordinarily be relied upon to beg off her brute of a husband.

Professor Charles W. Dabney has taken thirty days in which to decide whether he will leave the University of Tennessee and accept the presidency of the University of Cincinnati. The new place has a salary of \$8,000 per annum attached to it, and includes a handsome residence, rent free.

The professor is a native of this State, but lived many years in North Carolina before going to Tennessee. He has been often spoken of in connection with the presidency of the University of Virginia.

A proposition recently made in the Princeton Club, that the club should give Mayor-elect McClellan a dinner, was promptly "chloroformed."

Whether his political opponents forced this conclusion, or it was because he had never taken any interest in Princeton matters, is not certain. Both views obtain to some extent. At any rate, the Princetonians resident in New York will not give McClellan a dinner. However, the ten cent lunch counters are accessible to him.

In Ohio the Supreme Court has decided that a father who failed to send for a physician to attend his child who was ill of pneumonia, but who relied upon the faith cure, could not be indicted for manslaughter. In New York State

the ruling has been quite to the contrary, but there is a New York statute requiring the parent to furnish the child with food, clothes, shelter and "medical attendance."

There are 18,000 lawyers in the city of New York—quite an army; but many of them are said to be employed by large mercantile firms merely as clerks-law clerks. However, they know there is room enough at the top; their only trouble is to know how to find their way there. There are so many rungs in the ladder and they are so slippery.

The President is solid enough with the folks who make Republican nominees. It may be different when he comes to reckon with the folks who make Presidents of these United States.

No matter at what season of the year the war on the Isthmus breaks out the mosquitoes will be there to take a hand in the melee.

It is natural to suppose that the great wars across the Atlantic would enjoy a little fight that is purely American.

It's a great thing to be able to resign when you want to. Some lawmakers can resign without a protest.

If this thing keeps up much longer the farmers of Virginia will have a ten inch ice crop on sale next summer.

Those Colombian troops are doubtless glad that there is a mountain between them and certain antagonistic alliances.

Panama has all to win and nothing to lose, and so she can afford to bet recklessly.

That fellow, Baylor, and his surveying apparatus has our Legislature guessing.

Some of the left over turkeys are being made ready for the Christmas slaughter.

The busy Christmas shopper is already beginning to wish it was all over.

The time may come when we will be disposed to call them Panamanians.

With a Comment or Two.

"Who owns the United States?" asks Jerome Pratt. Is his first name John D.?—Montgomery Advertiser.

J. Pierp is supposed to hold a few shares.

Jerry Simpson declares that money is a dear issue in politics. So is the lack of social and political reform for political reform—Savannah News.

Jerry's name can't be mentioned, it seems, without a revival in some way of that old scoundrel story, a story which is and always was truthful.

Mr. Cleveland is not going to be nominated, neither is Mr. Bryan, and we might add Mr. Gorman. The Carolina's senator is starting off well. He is evidently a man of considerable intellect, and besides is a good worker.—Wilmington Star.

"The old flag and an appropriation" as it were. Pretty good platform anyhow.

Whiskey keeps getting a black eye and some of these days it will get knocked out. The Big Four system of railroads has just issued an order that no man can be a liquor or off duty and hold a job with the company.—Greensboro Record.

Here is a prohibition that will prohibit.

A GAME QUERY.

Can a Man Eat One Partridge a Day for Thirty Days?

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—In a conversation recently the talk was of wild game, particularly of partridges, or quail. I made the assertion that a person could eat one partridge a day for thirty consecutive days. Mr. James H. McGavock, of Fort Chiswell, Wye county, assured me that he could. I told him that some sporting fraternity had a standing offer of a thousand dollars to any one that would eat thirty partridges in thirty days. I was unable, however, to furnish Mr. McGavock any specific information as to what sporting organization had made this offer, or any reliable information at all pertaining to the offer.

Mr. McGavock insisted that he could eat only thirty partridges in thirty days, and thus win the \$1,000, but that he would not accept the offer, as he could have it all in a day.

Now, I have a standing offer of a thousand dollars to any one that will eat thirty partridges in thirty days. I have heard it in a general way, and hence cannot in any way vouch its authenticity. I should have dropped the matter, and not bothered you with it, but in further conversations I find the belief "abroad in the land" that there is such an offer, and that one cannot eat thirty partridges in thirty days.

I, therefore, ask that you kindly and fully enlighten an unsuspecting community upon the subject. All I want is to know if there is such a standing offer, and if so, who or what organization makes it?

(B) Can a person eat thirty partridges in thirty consecutive days?

RO. L. GARDNER, Pulaski City, Va., Dec. 11th.

(We know of no such "standing offer" as that referred to by our correspondent, but we would like to know what other members of the proposition. We have no chance to know of one man who did accomplish the feat "to decide a bet." He ate one partridge a day for thirty consecutive days, and called for more.—Ed. T. D.)

Hearst's Way.

Mr. W. R. Hearst might or might not make a good President, but as the most progressive newspaper man in the country he has certainly learned how to do things. He wanted to get on a Congressional committee and he did it. He wanted to put Hearst in a halfhearted way—he did it. He wanted to get on a Congressional committee and he did it. He wanted to put Hearst in a halfhearted way—he did it. He wanted to get on a Congressional committee and he did it. He wanted to put Hearst in a halfhearted way—he did it.

Since the war "Famous 100,384" Prescription

NOW OVER 40 YEARS—AND LIKE TO REMAIN THE ONLY REAL CURE FOR RHEUMATISM AND ITS BLOOD RELATIONS.

At drug stores, 20c. bottle. Postal orders accepted. W. H. Bullman, University Place, New York.

For Xmas Buyers.

This store is teeming with suggestions and opportunities for purchasing giftable gifts at economical prices.

Furs for Christmas.

In a large and varied assortment of styles and prices.
A Handsome Fur Collarlet of Isabella Fox, with four tails and two tail tassels..... \$9.75
Ladies' Black Boa, eight tails and tassels, for..... \$6.00
Extra Long Black Boa, with Ermine lining, and six tails..... \$5.00
Pretty Brown Boa, six tails and tassels, for..... \$4.00

Umbrellas.

Our Holiday Umbrella stock contains some of the newest and noblest fancies from the Umbrella centers. The assortment is too large to tell you all about, come down and see them, they are just what you need. The prices range from 25c. to..... \$4.25

For Gentlemen's Gifts.

We have many good ideas: Now, suggestions made good presents. We have them nicely arranged in boxes all ready for presentation, two grades, 25c. and 50c.
Men like or Mufflers also, we have them in several patterns and prices; a very pretty one for..... 50c
Neck Ties are appreciated by the men. Our line of 25c. Ties compares favorably with that you pay more for.

Leather Goods.

To please and the prices are positively the lowest ever offered for this quality. For instance, we have a Ladies' Wrist Bag in tan, black, gray and red, leather handle or chain, 25c. and..... 50c

Handkerchiefs, Again.

Yes, we have such a large and tasty assortment of them we can't help talking about it. You can get what you want and save money too, by buying here.

W. A. Cheatwood, 1509-11-13 E. Main Street.

Events of the Week

Under Brief Review.

The message of President Roosevelt was submitted to Congress on Monday, and the next morning was printed in the daily papers in the country. It was a long document, but because of the fact that it necessarily treated of matters of more lively, and up-to-date interest than is usual with messages of presidents, it was probably read by more people than usually take interest in long and prosy public documents. The message, however attracted nearly as much attention for what it didn't say as for what it did say. For instance, the president's "few lines" on the currency question, and his profound silence on the subject of tariff attracted quite as much attention and called for quite as much comment as his lengthy explanation of the Panama-Columbian Exposition.

The old flag and an appropriation" as it were. Pretty good platform anyhow. Whiskey keeps getting a black eye and some of these days it will get knocked out. The Big Four system of railroads has just issued an order that no man can be a liquor or off duty and hold a job with the company.—Greensboro Record.

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social affair, just a little swapping of compliments among warm personal friends and had no public "reference to allusions" at all. Above all things it had nothing whatever to do with the matter of electing a President of the United States next year.

According to some of the correspondents, congressmen returning to Washington report the existence of a strong Hanna, or anti-Roosevelt, sentiment among the people. It is not confined to New York or Ohio or Indiana, but seems to exist all around. It is "in the air," say these wide awake correspondents, and that is their only explanation. Nearly a year ago Senator John Tyler Morgan, of Alabama, put the whole country to laughing—laughing. He him—by predicting that Roosevelt will not be nominated by the Republicans. Senator Morgan is quite an old man, but he seems to stand a pretty good chance to live to see the laugh on the other fellows. By the way, Mr. Morgan said at the same time, predicted that Foraker, of Ohio, would be the nominee of the Republicans.

Among the many interesting reports that came from Washington last week was one to the effect that before leaving from office, Mr. Root, the Secretary of War, will institute still another reform, or at least change, in the military administration. He is credited with the intention of creating several new military departments. The old department of the Gulf is to be re-established, under the name of the department of the South, with headquarters at Atlanta, and there is even talk of creating a department of coast defense, with headquarters in Washington.

From the Church Papers.

Nothing is more deceitful than sin. The power of sin lies in its invisibility. It deceives the soul as it really is, it would win few converts.

QUESTIONS—perhaps none. But its victims are all deceived. Our Lord is perfectly honest and frank with men. He tells all those who are called to deny themselves in order to follow him. No Christian who meets with hardships in the service of his Master can say he had no intimation of what was coming. But the evil one, the tempter, is not so honest. He conceals the truth and publishes a lie. He promises riches, pleasures and honors which he can never bestow. "Be not deceived." Be not ignorant of his devices.—Southern Christian.

Circumstances may be beyond our control, but it is always within our power to determine how we shall face them.

YOUR CHOICE? One adversity overcame a man. He fell in a heap, weeping, and has ever since been beseeching people to come to his help.

There is no one of all this myriad of far-blazing suns that is not perfectly known to Him. "He calleth them by their names." Out of the whirlwind the Lord spoke to Job of the things that he had done to him. Only the "morning stars sang together."

It was the Shepherd-King who wrote: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth His handiwork." If the Babe of Bethlehem was indeed as he claimed the eternal Son of God, we do not wonder that a star guided the wise men, and that the star was the world, though adversity is still equally the lot of them both.—Sunday-School Times.

What must be the power and majesty of the Ruler and Maker of all! The stretcheth out the heavens as a tent, and dwelleth in them.

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